

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This **Listing of Claims** replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) A system for managing data associated with mobile assets, comprising:

an asset monitor, for each of a plurality of mobile assets, operable to collect asset data based on events and input at the mobile asset, summarize the collected asset data, make decisions concerning operation of the mobile asset in view of the collected asset data, and wirelessly communicate the summarized asset data;

a management computer for processing and storing the summarized asset data for the plurality of mobile assets in a relational database format; and

a wireless communications infrastructure interconnecting the management computer to each of the mobile assets, the infrastructure including a plurality of local monitor nodes each storing summarized asset data in a relational database format for at least a portion of the plurality of mobile assets that is at least a partial replica of the summarized asset data stored by the management computer.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the asset monitor includes a processor operable to summarize the asset data and make the operation decisions in view of the asset data based on the evaluation of certain rules.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the certain rules implemented by the processor evaluate whether the wireless infrastructure and/or the management computer needs to have the asset data, and if so includes the asset data in the summarized asset data for wireless communication.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 wherein each of the local monitor nodes further comprises a processing capability operable to make decisions concerning operation of the mobile asset in view of the summarized asset data wirelessly communicated by each asset communicator.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24 wherein the local monitor further wirelessly communicates mobile asset operation commands back to the mobile asset based on the made decisions concerning operation of the mobile asset.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 wherein each of the local monitor nodes further comprises a processing capability operable to decide what summarized asset data wirelessly communicated by each asset communicator is further communicated to the management computer.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 further including a network interface for allowing third party access to the stored asset data maintained by each local monitor node within the wireless communications infrastructure.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the asset monitor includes a processor operable to determine each of what, where, when and how often to make wireless communication with the wireless communications infrastructure.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 further including a network interface for allowing third party access to the stored asset data maintained by the management computer.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the event data comprises sensor detected data concerning operation of the mobile asset and the input asset data comprises operator supplied data concerning mobile asset operation.

31. (Previously Presented) A system for managing data associated with mobile assets, comprising:

a management computer for storing asset data for a plurality of mobile assets in a relational database format;

an asset monitor, for each of a plurality of mobile assets, operable to wirelessly receive asset data originated at the management computer and make decisions concerning operation of the mobile asset in view of the received asset data; and

a wireless communications infrastructure interconnecting the management computer to each of the mobile assets, the infrastructure including a plurality of local monitor nodes each

storing asset data in a relational database format for at least a portion of the plurality of mobile assets that is at least a partial replica of the asset data stored by the management computer.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31 wherein each of the local monitor nodes includes a processor operable to be responsive to received asset data originated at the management computer, to make decisions concerning operation of the mobile asset in view of the received asset data and wirelessly communicate instructions for mobile asset operation to the mobile asset.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the management computer operates to determine to which ones of the plurality of local monitor nodes does the asset data for a certain one of the plurality of mobile assets need to be communicated.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the asset monitor is further operable to parse a wirelessly received communication of asset data to identify and store only that asset data which is pertinent to the mobile asset.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the asset data stored by the management computer in a relational database format comprises data relating to controlling access to the mobile assets and authorization for operators to utilize each of the plurality of mobile assets.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the plurality of local monitor nodes each store at least a portion of the access control and authorization asset data and wirelessly communicate that asset data to asset monitors.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36 wherein the asset monitor is further operable to parse a wirelessly received communication of access control and authorization asset data to identify and store only that access control and authorization asset data which is pertinent to the mobile asset.